

REMARKS

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action issued on August 23, 2006. Claims 1-6 and 13-15 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 7-12, 16-19 and 21-24 are now active for examination.

The Office Action dated August 23, 2006 allowed claims 21-24, but rejected claims 1-6, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Mattes et al. (US Publication No. 2004/0153217). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mattes et al. in view of Fujita (US Patent No. 5,485,892). Claims 7-12 and 16-19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Response, all the rejected claims are cancelled, and all the allowable claims 7-12 and 16-19 are rewritten to overcome the objection by incorporating every limitation of the base claims on which they depend, to achieve allowance. No new matter is added. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 21-24 were already allowed.

It is submitted that all the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully requested.

Serial No.: 10/715,483

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to **Deposit Account 500417** and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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